

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CEDAR RAPIDS, LINN COUNTY, IOWA
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024 9:00 A.M.

The Board met in session at the Linn County Jean Oxley Public Service Center. Present: Chairperson Running-Marquardt (via phone), Vice Chairperson Rogers and Supervisor Zumbach. Board members voting "AYE" unless otherwise noted.

Vice Chairperson Rogers called the meeting to order.

The Board heard updates from the following Elected Officials:

Nick Maybanks, Attorney – his office will remain short staffed until August 1st; upcoming promotions including Jennifer Erger (who was present at the meeting); summer interns start May 29th; division statistics (felony's, misdemeanors, and drug offenses); legislative updates; annual Go the Distance for Crime Victims 5K took place (raised \$5,000); wrote letter in support of magnet schools; Courthouse expansion still in the works.

Discussion continued regarding staffing issues and public vs. private sector jobs.

Rhonda Betsworth, Deputy Auditor – highlighted changes to SF2442 regarding the budget statement mailer including a date change; HF718 working group meeting on May 17th to discuss feedback.

Supervisor Rogers added that they received calls about the mailer, and he doesn't feel that the letter did what it was designed to do and instead it created a lot of confusion.

Matt Warfield, Deputy Auditor, stated that the Primary Election is 4 weeks away; have received fewer than 100 absentee ballot requests; no contested races are on the ballot; early voting begins a week from tomorrow; yellow postcards will be sent to all voting households in Linn County with polling place information on May 15th; utilizing this election to go through process revisions, new equipment and ensure things are operating as expected; implemented new ballot review process and identified some printed issues on the ballots (ballots were replaced within 3 days); met with a Data Integrity Group to discuss their concerns, help the group to understand why certain laws exist and to provide additional information about Iowa Code.

Joel Miller, Auditor – stated that a law was passed in 2021 that gave poll watchers rights to be in polling places; attended Secretary of State training a couple of weeks ago; possible challenges on November ballot due to write in votes and more libertarian candidates; expanded to 79 polling places (always working on more polling places).

Warfield expressed his gratitude to the Cedar Rapids Community School District and Linn Mar School District for their cooperation with voting locations at their schools.

Carolyn Siebrecht, Recorder – transitioning to a new service provider for real estate software (Cott to Fidlar); County Attorney has reviewed the contract and has no concerns; switching to a local company (US Imaging) to create their microfilm and store on site; staff position modifications include a desk audit and creating a position tailor to their office needs (Recorder Specialist); exploring additional opportunities to improve customer knowledge of the passport process and utilizing discounted rate for required postage class for passports; continuing to evaluate office processes for areas of improvement in efficiency, operating costs or both.

Adjournment at 9:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL D. MILLER, Linn County Auditor
By: Amanda Hoy, Executive Assistant

APPROVED BY:

KIRSTEN RUNNING-MARQUARDT, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors